

## I CLAIM

1. A system for synchronizing data streams, the system comprising:
  - a) an input source for a CLK and a SYNC stream;
  - 5 b) a SYNC decoder for receiving said CLK and SYNC streams and decoding said SYNC stream packets into a qualified system time events;
  - c) a plurality of SYNC receivers, for receiving said qualified system time events and converting said qualified system time events to one or more derived time events; and
  - 10 d) output means for transmitting said derived time events.
2. The system of claim 1 wherein said input source comprises one or more master locks.
- 15 3. The system of claim 1 wherein said input source comprises a locked oscillator.
4. The system of claim 1 wherein said input source comprises an external master reference.
- 20 5. The system of claim 1 wherein each of said SYNC receivers comprises a flywheeling counter.
6. The system of claim 1 wherein said SYNC stream comprises a plurality of packets, each packet comprising: a high level logic bit, a packet start bit, a group of flag bits, a low bit, a group of checkword bits; and a take bit.
- 25 7. The system of claim 6, wherein the flag bits, low bit and checkword bits may repeat within each packet.

8. A method for synchronizing data streams comprising the steps of:
- a) receiving a CLK signal;
  - 5 b) receiving a SYNC stream;
  - c) decoding said SYNC stream into a plurality of qualified system time events, said decoding utilizing said CLK signal;
  - d) transmitting each of said plurality of qualified system time events to one or more receivers;
  - 10 e) creating and synchronizing derived time events contained in said qualified system time events packets within said receivers; and
  - f) transmitting said derived time events.
9. A method for synchronizing data streams, said method comprising:
- 15 a) receiving a CLK stream and a SYNC stream;
  - b) decoding said SYNC stream into qualified system time events;
  - c) transmitting said qualified system time events to a plurality of SYNC receivers,
  - d) converting of said qualified system time events by said SYNC
  - 20 receivers to one or more derived time events; and
  - e) transmitting said derived time events to one or more components.
10. The method of claim 9 wherein said CLK stream is received from one
- 25 or more master locks.
11. The method of claim 10 wherein said one or more master locks receive said CLK stream from an external master reference.

12. The method of claim 9 wherein said CLK stream is received from a locked oscillator.

13. The method of claim 9 wherein said converting of said SYNC packets  
5 utilizes at least one flywheeling counter.

14. A computer data signal embodied in a transmission medium comprising:  
a plurality of packets, each packet comprising: a high level logic bit, a packet  
10 start bit, a group of flag bits, a low bit, a group of checkword bits; and a take  
bit.

15. The data signal of claim 14, wherein the flag bits, low bit and  
checkword bits may repeat within each packet.  
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16. The data signal of claim 14 wherein said group of flag bits indicate  
video and audio synchronization events for the purpose of synchronizing an  
MPEG-2 data stream.